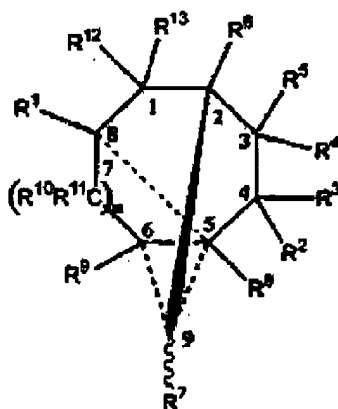


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In the Claims:

1. (previously presented) A compound of formula I



wherein

$R^1$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently hydrogen, or  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl; or

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

$R^5$  is hydrogen, or  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;

$R^8$  is hydrogen, or branched lower  $C_{3-7}$  alkyl;

$R^9$  is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, or branched lower  $C_{3-7}$  alkyl;

$R^{10}$  is ethyl or propyl;

$R^{11}$  is  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;

$R^{12}$  is hydroxy;

$R^{13}$  is hydrogen, or  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl; or

$R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group; the dashed line represents either a C-C single bond or no bond; and

a) when C5 and C8 are connected by a single bond and C9 and C6 are connected by a single bond, C9 and C5 are not connected by a bond,

$n=1$ ,

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$R^7$ ,  $R^8$  are hydrogen, and

$R^9$  is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; or

- b) when C5 and C8 are connected by a single bond and C9 and C6 are connected by a single bond, C9 and C5 are not connected,

$n=0$ ,

$R^7$ ,  $R^8$  is hydrogen,

$R^9$  is a branched lower  $C_{3-7}$  alkyl; or

- c) when C5 and C8 are not connected by a bond, C9 and C5 are connected by a single bond,

$R^7$  is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl,

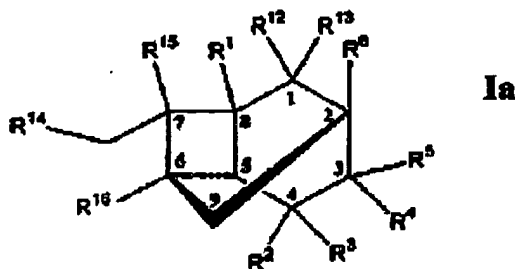
$R^8$  is a branched lower  $C_{3-7}$  alkyl, or

$R^7$  and  $R^8$  together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring,

$n=0$ , and

the bond between C6 and C8 may be a single bond or a double bond.

2.(withdrawn) A compound according to claim 1 having a formula Ia



wherein

$R^1$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^{14}$  and  $R^{16}$  are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently hydrogen, or  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl; or,

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$R^2$  and  $R^3$  together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

$R^5$  is hydrogen, or  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;

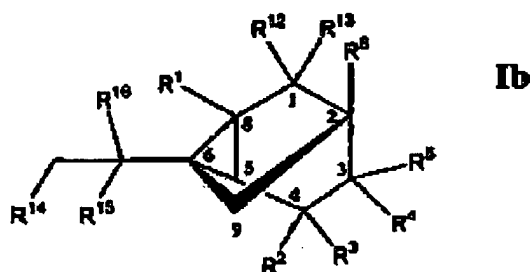
$R^{15}$  is  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;

$R^{12}$  is hydroxy;

$R^{13}$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl; or

$R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group.

3.(withdrawn) A compound according to claim 1 of formula Ib,



wherein

$R^1$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^{14}$  and  $R^{16}$  are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently hydrogen, or  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl; or,

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

$R^5$  is hydrogen, or  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;

$R^{15}$  is  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl

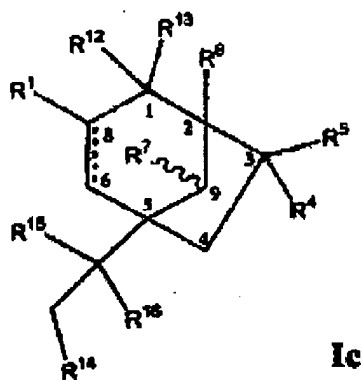
$R^{12}$  is hydroxy;

$R^{13}$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl; or

$R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group.

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4.(original) A compound according to claim I of formula Ic,



wherein

$R^1$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^{14}$  and  $R^{16}$  are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

$R^5$  is hydrogen, or  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl;

$R^7$  and  $R^{14}$  are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; or,

$R^7$  and  $R^{14}$  together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

$R^{15}$  is  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;

$R^{12}$  is hydroxy;

$R^{13}$  is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl; or

$R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group; and

the bond between C6 and C8 may be a single bond;

or the dotted line together with the bond between C6 and C8 may represent a double bond.

5.(original) A compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of

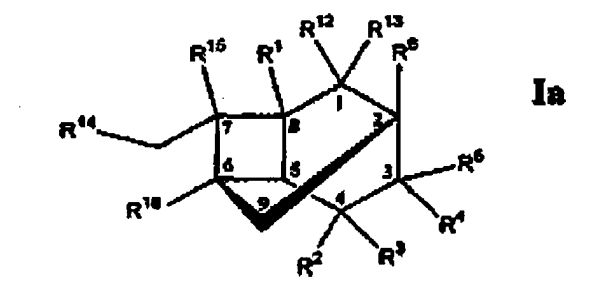
1,5,7,8,8-Pentamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonan-6-one; 1,5,7,8,8-Pentamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonan-6-one; 1,3,3,5,7,8,8-Heptamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonan-6-one; 3,3,5,7,8,8-Hexamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonan-6-one; 3,3,5,8,8-Pentamethyltricyclo[3.3.1.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonan-6-one; 5,7,8,8-Tetramethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonan-6-one; 1- Isopropyl-3,3,5-trimethyl-

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tricyclo[3.2.1.0<sup>2,7</sup>]octan-6-one; 5-Isopropyl-1,3-dimethylbicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one; 5-Isopropyl-1,3-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]octan-2-one; 5-tertButyl-1,3-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one; 5-sec-Butyl-1,3-dimethylbicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-ene-2-one; 5-Isopropyl-3-methyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-ene-2-one; 5,7-Diisopropyl-3-methyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one; 5-Isopropyl-3,7,7-trimethyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one; 1,3,5-Trimethyl-1,5,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro-1,4a-ethanonaphthalen-2-one; and 5,6,7,8,8-Pentamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonan-6-ol.

6.(previously presented) A flavour or fragrance composition comprising a compound according to claim 1.

7.(currently amended) A flavour or fragrance composition according to claim 6 comprising at least one compound selected from the group of compounds of formula Ia as defined in claim 2



wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>14</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently hydrogen, or C<sub>1-5</sub> alkyl; or,

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl;

R<sup>15</sup> is C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl;

R<sup>12</sup> is hydroxy;

R<sup>13</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl; or

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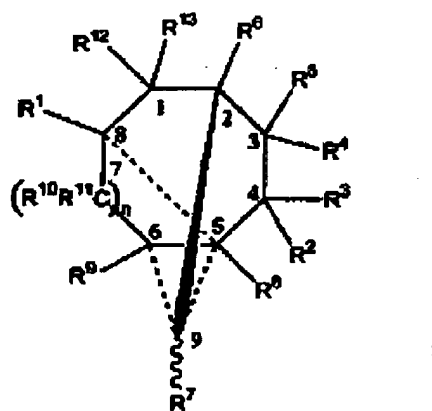
R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a carbonyl group

and at least one compound selected from the group of compounds of formula Ic as defined in claim 4.

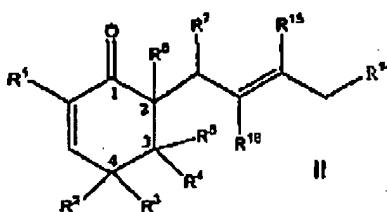
- 8.(withdrawn) A flavour or fragrance composition according to claim 7 comprising 5-tert-Butyl-1,3-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-en-2-one and 1,5,7,8,8-Pentamethyl-tricyclo[3.3.1.0<sup>2,7</sup>]nonan-6-one.
- 9.(withdrawn – currently amended) A fragrance application comprising the ~~The use of a~~ compound according to claim 1, wherein the fragrance application is a ~~in~~ fragrance and or a flavour applications application.
- 10.(withdrawn – currently amended) A fragrance application comprising the ~~The use of~~ a compound according to claim 1, wherein the fragrance application is selected from the group consisting of perfume in perfumes, a household products product, a laundry productproducts, a body care product products, and a cosmetic producteesmeties.
- 11.(previously presented) The use in a fragrance application, flavour application, in a perfume, in a household product, in a laundry product, in a body care product or in a cosmetic product wherein a compound according to claim 1 is provided in an amount from 0.001 to 20% by weight.
- 12.(original) A method of manufacturing a flavour or fragrance composition, comprising the step of incorporating a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1 to a base material.

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- 13.(original) A method of manufacturing a fragranced application, comprising the incorporation of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1.
- 14.(original) A method according to claim 13 wherein the fragranced application is selected from the group consisting of perfume, household product, laundry product, body care product and cosmetics.
- 15.(previously presented) A process of preparing a compound of the formula I as defined in claim 1



comprising the step of reacting a compound of formula II with ethyl aluminium dichloride or methyl aluminium dichloride



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wherein

$R^1$ ,  $R^4$ , and  $R^6$  are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently hydrogen, or  $C_{1-5}$  alkyl; or

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl ring;

$R^5$  is hydrogen, or  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl;

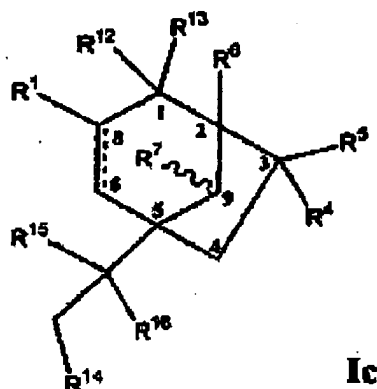
$R^7$  and  $R^{14}$  are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; or

$R^7$  and  $R^{14}$  together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkane ring;

$R^{16}$  is hydrogen, or lower branched  $C_{3-7}$ , alkyl,

and optionally followed by the step of reduction and/or alkylation of the carbonyl group at C1.

16.(previously presented) A process of preparing a compound of the general formula Ic

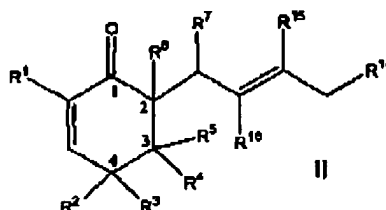


comprising the step of converting a compound of formula II by photochemical induction



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wherein

 $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ , and  $R^{16}$  are hydrogen; $R^1$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^6$  are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; $R^7$  and  $R^{14}$  are independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; or $R^7$  and  $R^{14}$  together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkane ring; $R^5$  is hydrogen, linear or branched  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl; $R^{15}$  is linear or branched  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl; and

and optionally followed by the step of hydrogenation across the double bond at C6 and C8, and

optionally followed by the step of reduction and/or alkylation of the carbonyl group at C1.